

REMARKS

Pursuant to the Examiner's remarks, Applicant notes that a certified copy of the Russian application upon which a claim for foreign priority is based has been ordered and will be filed in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 119(b) upon receipt.

Claims 1-7 and 23-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Claims 1-2, 4-7, and 23-24 have been cancelled. Claim 3 has been amended. Claims 8-12 and 25-27 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claims 8 and 25 have been amended in the independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 9-11 are dependent on the amended claim 8. Claim 12 remains dependent on Claim 11. Claims 26 and 27 remain dependent on the amended Claim 25.

Rejections under 103(a)

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-7 and 23-24 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kato, et al. WO00/13775 (U.S. Pat. No. 6,710,013 used as translation). The Examiner objected to Claims 8-12 and 25-27 as being dependent on rejected base claims. Applicant has cancelled Claims 1-2, 4-7, and 23-24 and has amended Claim 3 to address the Examiner's objections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). The Examiner states that it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the compounds of Claims 8-12. In response, Applicant has amended Claim 3 to specify use of AMP as the extractant and ammonium hydroxide as the solvent. Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 3, as amended, is now in condition for allowance.

The Examiner objected to Claims 8-12 and 25-27 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, and stated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in the independent form

including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicant has amended Claim 8 to be independent and to include all of the limitations of Claims 1-7. Claims 9-11 are now dependent on the amended Claim 8. Claim 12 remains dependent on Claim 11. Applicant has amended Claim 25 to be independent and to include all the limitations of Claims 23 and 24. Claims 26 and 27 remain dependent on the amended Claim 25.

Applicant respectfully submits that the amended Claims 3, 8-11, and 25, and Claims 12, 26, and 27 are now sufficiently distinguishable over Kato, et al as to be patentable. Applicant therefore requests the Examiner to reconsider these claims, particularly in light of the amendments as set forth in the attachment.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner allow Claims 3, 8-11, and 25, as amended, and claims 12, 26, and 27.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Julia Cook Moody", written over a horizontal line.

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Attachment

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